

Our democratic ways need to survive and flourish again. Candidates need the help of some opportunities to advance issues and debate in the public settings -- as with broadcasting and parts of the PUBLIC broadcasting charter and mission. Many candidates simply can't get opportunities with paid advertising networks as the money interests only go to those already in office. The status quo makes for serious ruts in our discourse. Without exposure for challengers, even poor ones, the entire system sours. We need diversity in the media and stronger alternatives in the public spaces too.